

so long sat under that man's ^{Homilies} preaching, that I can hardly
escape his man now - and all along I have been conscious of the
fact, of an imitation which suits me about as well, a shield does
a spear-pole. - Probably the people will give me to understand
- stand something soon. If they (the church & congregation)
should be agreed perfectly, and wish me (pretty hard) to stay
- straight; otherwise I should go to ^{all} Princeton, if I do not
to Boston. - But my path wants so much light at present,
that I cannot say a word. by a the way of prescience,
This much, that the people here receive me with cordiality
and apparent satisfaction. I have heard from Whittle-
sey, he does not like the place so Woodstock and refuses
to stay, a great while. The place Durham, is here occu-
pied, with Tobey, and he may stay there. - The next
Sabbath, I shall go there to preach and if he does not
stay, I shall point out Whittlesey. If you can write
me, I wish you would. Does your reversal go on? -
and does the volcano belch out sand forth fire? Well
you will do as well as any body to walk around the crater.
So from an old p. classmate, & Br. James A. Smith

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Years worth. Great Fall and winter
and little or no work. Oct 17. A. D. 81.
Bro Phelps. ~~He~~ was ill at first - and - need a
newspaper? I always had the character of a hard ass
fellow, as you very well know; but I have one redeeming
quality; which you may not so very well know. I
forgot to pay my part of the expenses, at Chelmsford, and
here I incurred, two of them, and make you pay a double
hostage. I have preached here three sabbaths, and have
many more, I know not. What the people will do with me
I know not; but if I stay much longer, I must have my
books and &c. This week, Thursday. I must go to Dover
to preach an evening Lecture. I have already spoken
of a man, at Hopkinton - two or three times, and meant
to do it again, and if possible, persuade them to send
in you. A good opportunity will be afforded me, this
week, to use my influence. I shall always, feel indebted
to you, for your advice, to me, on my preaching. I have